

Takoma Park Health Services Impact Committee

Minutes: September 20, 2006

Adopted October 4, 2006.

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm at the Takoma Park Community Center

Present were committee members Joan Clement, John Conger, Trevor Delafield, Seth Grimes, Frederick Hoeflinger, Pat Loveless, Kermit Netteburg, Andrew Sommers, Lois Wessel, and Joanne Wu and City liaison Venita George.

Venita George opened the meeting by presenting background information and suggesting a number of points to cover in this first meeting including deciding on a governing structure, setting meeting dates and times, and figuring out when to present quarterly reports. She passed out a brief agenda for this first meeting and a copy of Council Resolution 2006-12 establishing the committee. She stressed that members have control over committee operations.

Members introduced themselves.

The committee discussed its operations and recognized that meetings would be open to the public and listed in city events calendars with minutes kept and published. The committee agreed to convey a standing invitation to the Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) to have a representative present at meetings and would ask them to name a committee liaison and would plan to send them and others the agenda in advance of each meeting.

The committee discussed information sources. Members suggested WAH, the Maryland Healthcare Commission, the Montgomery County Primary Care Coalition, the County Department of Health.

The committee discussed information gathering and outreach via a city survey, by reaching out and perhaps holding occasional meetings at Victory Tower, the Franklin at 7620 Maple Avenue, a Casa of Maryland facility, WAH, the Sligo Church and other locations, aiming to hold a meeting in each of the city's wards. Members noted the need to look at needs and stakeholders in Long Branch, Langley Park, Prince George's County, and other nearby areas.

The committee set next meeting dates of Wednesday October 4 and Thursday November 2, with the thought that meetings could take place as often as bi-weekly for several months and then monthly or as needed after. The committee would use an e-mail list for planning and information interchange and would attempt to keep a member who does not use e-mail up to date by phone or by arranging for assistance with e-mail. Venita would put together information on members to help us get to know one another.

There was consensus that the committee would be headed by co-chairs who will be elected at the next meeting. The committee at that meeting will establish priorities and lists of interests.

The committee then adjourned its first meeting.

Prepared by Seth Grimes.